

(Transcription begins)
British War Relief Society, Inc.
Rhode Island Committee
38 Exchange Place – PROVIDENCE
Tel. GA. 2176

Thursday, and the last day of
1942.

Dear Douglas:

Last night we were greeted by your two welcome letters, one to Dad and me and the other to Marilyn and Bill. We were so pleased that you enjoyed your Christmas box and to know how you spent Christmas. We thought possibly you might have been entertained in some home but I think more of that is done for the enlisted men than for the officers. We tried to match your two pieces of luggage but the one we sent was the nearest to your large bag that we could find.

We are late about ordering your pictures but we thought we would let the Christmas rush get over, so Dad went in yesterday and ordered five without the hat on and one with, you had such a short hair-cut that we liked it better without the hat. They should be done in a very short time and one will be put in the exhibit at the Hall Library of the boys from Edgewood who are in service. Marilyn will have one and we are going to send one to Mabel Snow, Admiral Snow's daughter. We had a lovely letter from her at Christmas, saying that you were her nearest relative now in the Navy and she seemed so interested to know all about you and know that your phiz¹ will be hung alongside the Admiral!

Last night Mrs. Everson entertained about twenty of the CYMBC and a few younger fellows such as Everett and Leland at a steak dinner in honor of Kirk Everson. Dad said they had a fine meal and he found Kirk very interesting and he and Mr. Everson (*sic*) a grand time reminiscing of the last war.

Last Saturday night when we invited friends to supper, they all brought their own butter and insisted that we keep whatever was left, I had been able to buy a half pound, and Mrs. Metcalf brought me a quarter of a pound wrapped as a Christmas (*sic*), so we gained on the deal!

Monday night we had dinner with Mrs. Hard, Barbara and Lieut. Bill Johnson from Alabama, who is stationed at Quonset and is very fine. (Some of this news sounds as though I had written it to you before! Then we called on the Schmids and saw their tree, etc.

¹ **Phiz**—Slang; Dean Swift, the great Irish satirist, coined the word "phiz" for face.

Tuesday evening, Mrs. Hard and the Fischers started us on Contract Bridge which proved to be quite brain stimulating and interesting. Marilyn went to a party at Lucille's and how it poured! The drenching rain kept up all day yesterday and today there is a terrific wind, it seems almost of hurrican (*sic*) force but the sun is shining and is not too cold.

Tomorrow we leave at noon for Martha's Vineyard loaded with baggage as heavily as the day you returned from New York but there seem to be so many things needed at the cottage. Marilyn is looking forward with great glee to her first attempt at housekeeping but I can see that she has a dread that she will be home-sick when Bill is not there. She has been trying her hand at cooking and today gave a luncheon to five of her friends which she prepared herself. Her address will be (street address censored) Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

We are undecided whether to take Chip with us or leave him for the Jones to let in and out. It is so cold that I think he will run in and out for them without any trouble and we expect to be back Saturday night. Everett will keep up the fire for us.

Have you a Lieut. Olney in any of your classes—someone (Mrs. Buffum, I think) says his family live in Edgewood.

We are much interested in every detail of your life, swimming, teaching, associates, sight-seeing, so don't think you haven't anything to write of interest. After Marilyn goes, it seems as though our life would be very uneventful but being at the shop all day keeps both Dad and me out of mischief and with good friends, your three books coming in every week, magazines, radio, records and not to mention cooking and keeping up the house, I guess the time will go rapidly, with letters in between to keep us happy. I tell Dad that if you are in Miami another Christmas, a trip there will be our Christmas present to each other! You certainly make it sound attractive.

Love
Mother

(Handwritten in the left margin):

Have I told you how thrilled we are with the snapshot of you and Ralph Harding in your white uniforms? (Transcription ends)